THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Such modernisation works are to include the following:

(a) Improved circulating area

(b) Improved concourse

(c) Better Platform surfaces

(d) Improved waiting halls-with good toilets

(e) Adequate lighting on Platforms and other conspicuous locations at station

(f) Modern design water booths

(g) Improved seating arrangements, etc.

Thirty railway stations have been identified for modernization under modernization scheme on the on the ECOR during 2006-97 and 2007-08 These are:

2006-07—Bhubneshwar, Cuttack, Puri, Brahampur, Bhadrak, Sambalpur, Bolangir, Titlagarh Kesinga, Kantabanji, Vishakhapatnam, Vizianagram, Rayagada, Duvvada & Srikakulam Road railway stations.

2007-08—Khurda Rbad, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Palasa, Balugaon, Dhenkanal, Bargarh Road, Mahasamund, Bagabara Road, Khariar Road, Muniguda, Koraput, Parvathipuram, Simhachalam, Bobbili & Chipurupalli railway stations.

Setting up electric locomotive unit

727. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed 10 set up a new electric locomotive unit in the country;

(b) whether a demand has been made by non-resident Oriyas for location of this unit in the Orissa State as this backward region does not have any rail production unit;

(c) whether Government are aware that Orissa is way behind to other States in tenns of rail density; and

(d) if so, what is the action plan of the Centre to upgrade its rail density especially keeping in view the fast industrialization of this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Approval has been obtained to set up an Electric Locomotive Manufacturing Unit at Madhepura, Bihar at an anticipated cost of 1293.57 crores.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Orissa is ahead of several States and Union Territories in rail density, that is rail route kilometer per 1000 square kilometers of geographical area. Presently, the state of Orissa occupies 20th position in this respect amongst 29 States and 6 Union Territories.

(d) Does not arise.